

THINGOE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

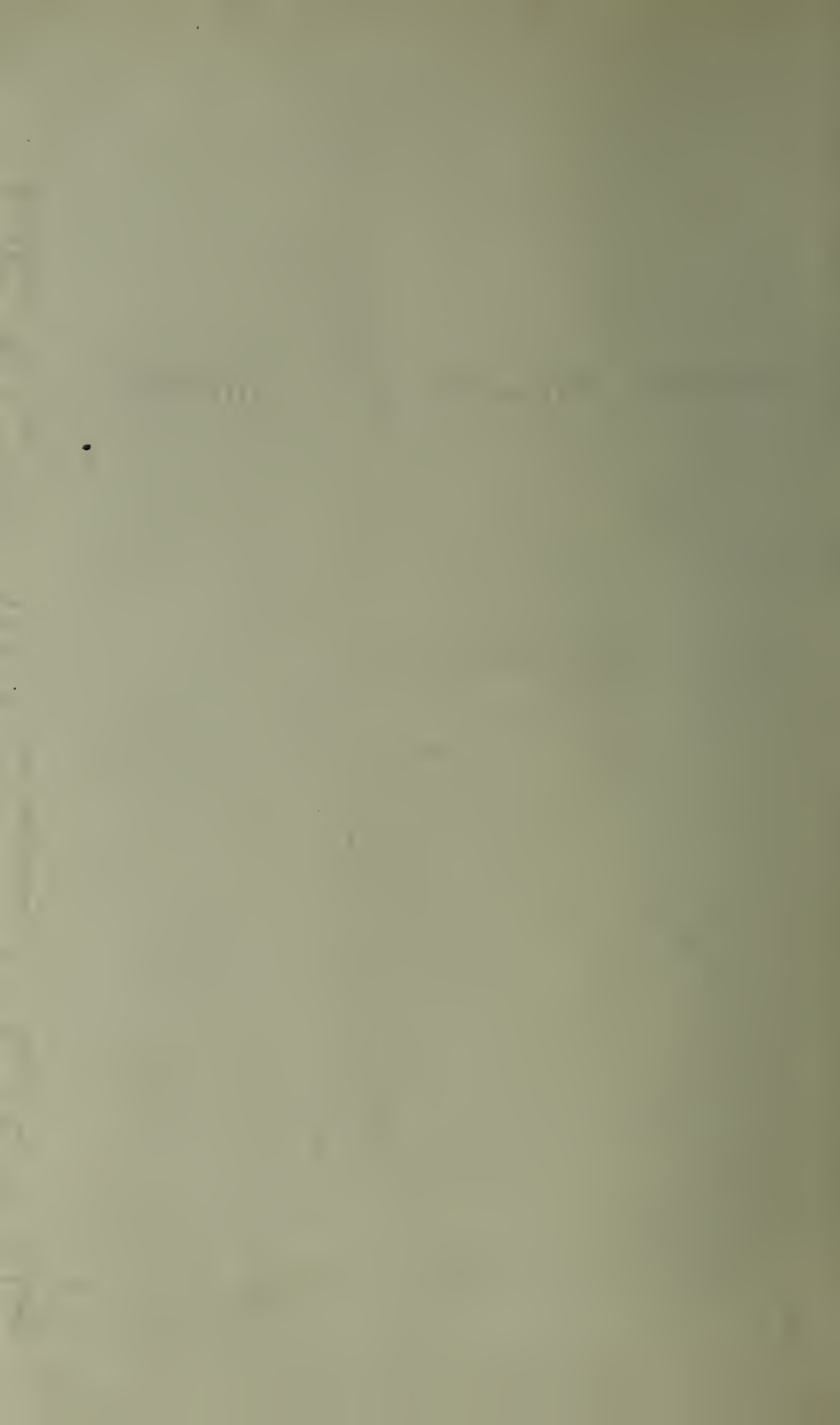
With the Compliments

of the

Medical Officer.

4, Hatter Street,

Bury St. Edmund's.



THINGOE RURAL DISTRICT.

To the Thingoe Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to lay before you my forty-second Annual Report on the Sanitary Condition of the Thingoe Rural District for the year 1919. I have endeavoured as far as possible to comply with the instructions contained in a "Memorandum as to contents and arrangement of the Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health for 1919," issued by the Ministry of Health.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

The population in 1911, when the last Census was taken, was 14,439. Population.

The Registrar General has supplied two estimates of the population for 1919, viz.:—

(a) 13,890. This is called the "civilian" or "death-rate population," and excludes all non-civilian males whether serving at home or abroad.

(b) 14,470. This is called the "birth rate (and marriage rate) population." It includes all the elements of the population contributing to the birth and marriage rates, or in other words it consists of the civilian population, plus all non-civilian males whether serving at home or abroad.

This is essentially an agricultural district, most of the land being under cultivation. The subsoil consists mainly of chalk, which is covered by beds of clay, gravel or sand of varying depths; the chalk, however, rises to the surface in places. The river Lark and its tributaries run through the central part of the district, mainly in a northerly direction; while in the eastern portion it is traversed by some tributaries of the Little Ouse. The highest part of the district is about 400 feet above the sea level. Physical Features!

Rainfall.

I am indebted to the Rev. H. Ingate Kilner, of Little Saxham Rectory, for the following particulars: During the year rain fell on 184 days, the total rainfall being 27.08 inches. The rain-gauge is situated about 250 feet above the sea level. The following table shows the rainfall for each month:—

	Inches.	Wet Days.		Inches.	Wet Days.
January ...	2.69	20	August ...	2.34	13
February ...	3.06	12	September ...	.67	11
March ...	2.44	18	October ...	.94	11
April ...	3.55	18	November ...	2.18	23
May ...	.40	6	December ...	3.97	26
June ...	1.20	9			
July ...	3.64	17	Total ...	27.08	184

Social
Conditions.

The social conditions, and the chief occupations of the inhabitants are those pertaining to an agricultural district. The general health of the inhabitants is good and tends to longevity. It may, however, be noted that the report of a Commissioner appointed during the war by the Ministry of National Service to investigate the results of the Medical Examination of recruits states that "the farm labourer, whose physique at 20 is excellent, is middle aged at 40 and a victim of varicose veins, defective feet and rheumatics."

Births

In the Thingoe District during the year 1919 there were 237 births, of which 118 were boys, and 119 were girls. 16 boys and 10 girls were illegitimate.

The birth-rate for the year was 16.37 per 1,000.

The birth-rate for England and Wales was 18.5 per 1,000.

Deaths.

During the year 157 civilian deaths were recorded, of which 92 were males and 65 were females. These numbers include not only those who died in the district, but also those persons belonging to the district who died in various institutions outside the district and in other places.

The death-rate for the year was 11.30 per 1,000.

The death-rate for England and Wales was 13.8 per 1,000.

Infant
Mortality.

There were 15 deaths amongst children under one year of age, of which 9 were boys, and 6 were girls. This includes the deaths of 5 illegitimate children. The proportion of deaths of children under one year of age to 1,000 births was 68.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

The water supply throughout the district is almost invariably obtained from private wells of variable depths, although on the heavy soils water is occasionally taken from ponds. The water taken from deep wells is on the whole very good, although hard; but that taken from shallow wells is variable, and is at all times liable to pollution. During a long drought some inconvenience is liable to be caused in places, owing to shortage of water, but last year the usual supply was fairly well maintained.

The chief complaint was received from the Parish Council of Great Barton, respecting a deep well on Conyers Green, which should supply about twenty houses. The analysis of a sample of water taken from this well showed excessive pollution, and the Council are in communication with the joint owners, with a view to having it cleansed.

In only a few parishes is there any regular system of drainage, and consequently waste and other waters are mostly disposed of by distribution upon the occupier's garden ground. In the absence of adequate sewerage systems, perhaps less nuisance is caused by this means of disposal than by discharging drains into dead wells or open ditches. In some cases, however, drainage is discharged into small open ditches, where it quickly becomes absorbed before reaching the larger streams or rivers.

It may be noted that the effluent from the Sewage Farm at West Stow, which takes the whole of the sewage from Bury St. Edmund's, discharges into a stream which runs into the river Lark at Lackford bridge. This causes little or no nuisance, and no complaints have been received in connection therewith for a long time.

The closet accommodation usually consists of a vault privy or a pail closet, but the former are being gradually replaced by the pail closet. In only a few parishes are there a limited number of hand-flushed water-closets. It is only in the larger houses that there are properly flushed water-closets to be found.

The approximate number of each type of closets, as far as cottages are concerned, is:—

Privies	...	...	...	...	1,192
Pail closets	...	...	...	...	1,174
Water-closets	...	...	...	...	39

Scavenging. In no parish in the district is there any recognised scheme for the collection and disposal of house refuse, etc., and in only isolated cases are suitable receptacles found for storing the refuse. The usual method is for the waste to lie accumulating upon the cottager's garden until it can be used for manurial purposes, generally upon the owner's allotment, which is situated some distance from his house. For some of the larger villages a system of scavenging might well be established, and I have recommended this on several former occasions. I would particularly urge that this course be adopted at Ixworth, and in support of this recommendation I would draw attention to the remarks made on this subject in the Report of the Housing Sub-Committee when they visited this parish. *Vide* page 12.

Sanitary Inspection. The Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Longhurst, reports that 860 inspections were made during the year, and that 11 statutory notices, and 65 informal notices were served, resulting in the abatement of 130 nuisances.

The Sanitary Inspector's report is attached hereto. There are no Bye-laws in force in the district, and practically no offensive trades.

Factories and Workshops. There is only one factory in the district. The 36 registered workshops include 22 bakehouses, 7 laundries, 3 blacksmiths' shops, 3 tailors' workshops, and 1 miscellaneous. These have all been inspected, and 5 minor nuisances abated.

Schools. An inspection of the sanitary arrangements at all Schools is in course of progress, and it is hoped that substantial improvements will be effected during the coming year. Improved cleanliness amongst school children has been very noticeable of recent years, but it behoves School Authorities to see that a good supply of water is available for drinking purposes, for allowing children to wash their hands, and for flushing urinals, etc.

The County Medical Officer of Health is the School Medical Officer, and he generally recommends the closure of and exclusion from school when necessary.

FOOD.

Milk Supply. There are 26 registered cowkeepers in the district, and 3 registered dairymen and purveyors of milk. The milk that is not disposed of locally is mostly sent to London or sold in Bury St. Edmund's. It is mostly of good quality, and no complaints have been received, nor any prosecutions undertaken. The dairies and cowsheds have been inspected and 3 cowsheds have been repaired and six cowsheds lime-washed, by request.

The 22 bakehouses were generally found to be in a satisfactory condition, but in 5 instances lime-washing or cleansing was carried out, by request. Bakehouses.

There are only a few private slaughterhouses, which are mostly kept clean and free from nuisance. In 2 cases cleansing was carried out, by request. Slaughter Houses.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The district has on the whole been unusually free from diseases of an infectious nature.

In April there were several cases of Smallpox removed from Bury St. Edmund's to the County Council Isolation Hospital at Fornham St. Martin. Two of these proved fatal. A nurse who undertook the care of these patients unfortunately contracted the disease. She was vaccinated on the day after she entered the Hospital, and all four places took well, but despite this fact she developed Smallpox. Small Pox

The number of primary cases of vaccination has remained much the same as during the last few years. I regret that a large number of parents are still seeking exemption, and that in consequence there must be a considerable number of unvaccinated children throughout the district. Vaccination.

Only three cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year, one at Chedburgh, one at Little Whelnetham, and one at Rushbrooke. Scarlet Fever.

Five cases of Diphtheria were notified, one at Barrow, one at Pakenham, one at Great Saxham, and two at West Stow. Diphtheria.

Antitoxin is supplied to all medical men practising in the district on application to the Medical Officer of Health.

Swabs taken from the throats of patients and contacts are examined by the County Medical Officer of Health, and no child is allowed to return to school till a negative result has been obtained.

Measles was not so prevalent as usual, only 9 cases having been notified by doctors, but parents with but few exceptions failed to report cases. Measles.

Notification of Measles ceased to be compulsory at the close of the year, and it was therefore thought unnecessary to continue to make this disease notifiable in this district.

The epidemic of Influenza which caused such ravages towards the end of 1918 died away almost as rapidly as it had commenced, and only a few cases of Influenzal Pneumonia were notified at the beginning of the year. Influenza.

Malaria. Five demobilised soldiers were notified as suffering from Malaria, all of whom contracted the disease abroad. Arrangements were made for cases of Malaria to be treated in the Northgate Red Cross Hospital.

Anthrax. Anthrax broke out amongst some pigs at Pakenham. The animals were dealt with by the County Authorities. All persons, however, who handled the animals were warned of the consequences, and advised as to the necessary precautionary steps to be taken.

Tuberculosis There were 11 notifications and 12 deaths due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis; of the latter 8 were males and 4 were females. This discrepancy is due to one or two residents of the district having died elsewhere. Most of these cases received Sanatorium treatment.

There were also 13 other forms of Tuberculosis notified, the organs affected being: Cervical glands 6, Mesenteric glands 1, Lupus of face 1, Bones 1, Joints 1, Lumbar Abscess 1, Meninges 1, Peritoneum 1.

Nine of these cases were treated at the West Suffolk General Hospital.

Cancer. Year by year the death-rate from Cancer continues very heavy, and last year proved no exception, the number of deaths being 18, of which 11 were males and 7 were females.

The organs primarily attacked were: Tongue 1, Œsophagus 2, Stomach 5, Intestines 2, Rectum 3, Kidney 1, Thyroid Gland 1, Breast 1, Uterus 2.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The general arrangements for attending to the health of expectant and nursing mothers, and children under five years of age, is undertaken by the County Council mainly through their Medical Officer of Health and Health Visitors.

The following table shows the cause of death of children under one month and under one year:—

Bronchitis	...	—	2	2
Pneumonia	...	—	2	2
Diarrhœa	...	—	2	2
Congenital Debility	}	5	2	7
Premature Birth				
Accident	...	1	—	1
Other causes	...	1	—	1
		—	—	—
Total	...	7	8	15
		—	—	—

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

The staff for carrying out the Sanitary arrangements of Staff the district consists of the Medical Officer of Health and one Sanitary Inspector.

Mr. Saint, who had been Sanitary Inspector for several years, and who carried out the duties in a most satisfactory manner, resigned in September. It was not, however, till October 27th that his successor, Mr. Longhurst, was appointed. Mr. Longhurst has up to the present only had a push bicycle for getting about, but this is quite inadequate for such a large district.

There is no Isolation Hospital available for ordinary Hospital infectious diseases, although Small-pox cases, should they Accommoda- occur, would doubtless be treated in the County Council Small-pox Hospital at Fornham St. Martin. I would again urge, as I have done on several previous occasions, the necessity for an Isolation Hospital. Such an Hospital might be arranged so as to meet the requirements of one or more districts.

The County Medical Officer of Health has arranged for Chemical and any necessary bacteriological work, as examining swabs Bacteriologi- for Diphtheria, sputum for Tubercle Baccilli, etc., while cal Work. the County Analyst undertakes the examination of samples of water, etc.

OTHER SERVICES.

The West Suffolk General Hospital has over 100 beds available for accidents and surgical and medical cases amongst civilians.

Arrangements have been made for the reception of ex-soldiers requiring operative and special treatment, and quite a large number have been admitted.

This Hospital is now fitted with an up-to-date X-Ray department, and arrangements have been made for the treatment by X-Rays of cases of Ringworm occurring in the district.

The Northgate Red Cross Hospital, which has about 35 beds, is still open for the treatment of ex-soldiers. It is nearly always full, and in addition a large number attend regularly as out-patients.

Most of the patients suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis have received treatment at the West Suffolk County Council Sanatorium.

Venerel diseases are treated by the County Medical Officer of Health.

Many defects occurring amongst school children have been dealt with by the School Medical Officer.

With regard to any future severe outbreak of Influenza, arrangements have been made whereby 40 or 50 beds could be set apart for Influenza patients at the Union Infirmary should the need arise.

HOUSING.

The number of houses in the district is approximately about 3,500, and the number occupied by the working classes about 2,700.

The population when the last Census was taken was 14,439, and it is now estimated to be 14,470.

The houses occupied by the working classes may roughly be divided into three classes.

First some very good cottages, which are chiefly to be found on the large estates or the closed villages. This class are largely constructed of brick or flint and rubble walls, with slate or tile roofs, and they generally contain three bedrooms, and two sitting-rooms, and have the usual outhouses.

Another class are those built of lath and plaster walls, with slate or tile roofs, and they generally contain two bedrooms, a living-room, and a scullery or pantry.

The third class are the thatched dwellings, many of which have old wattle or clay lump walls, while the ground floor is often below the level of the surrounding garden ground, and the floor consists of bricks laid on the bare earth. These cottages usually contain two bedrooms and one living-room.

It is amongst the two latter classes, and especially amongst the thatched houses, that the most serious defects are to be found. These defects being chiefly (*a*) the existence of excessive dampness, (*b*) insufficient lighting and ventilation, (*c*) general dilapidations.

Apart from the general survey made by the Housing Committee, accompanied by the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector, 860 inspections were made, and 65 preliminary notices, and 11 statutory notices were served, and as a result 130 nuisances were abated.

A house at Brockley was closed, and representations were also made for closing orders with respect to two houses at East Barton. These houses are, however, still occupied, as the tenants are unable to find any other suitable accommodation in the neighbourhood.

It will be noticed that a number of houses were condemned by the Housing Committee when making the survey of the district, but owing to want of accommodation it has not so far been found possible to carry out their recommendations.

A complaint has been received from the Parish Council of Great Barton with respect to the condition of the houses in this village, and the Sanitary Inspector is endeavouring to get any necessary work completed as soon as possible.

The chief difficulties which, for the last few years, have prevented the proper repairs of dilapidations, and the rendering fit for habitation of so many houses in the district, have been the scarcity of labour, and the excessive cost of materials. Moreover, it has been thought inadvisable to press for repairs and structural alterations in houses that have been condemned or are likely to be condemned in the near future.

Although it is realised that a large number of houses will have to be built as soon as possible, it seems more than likely that some time must elapse before they can be completed. The time therefore has arrived when owners of existing occupied houses will have to face the fact that they must put them into a decent and habitable state, if they are to remain occupied, even should they have to be condemned later on.

It may here be noted that eleven wooden houses, constructed out of old Army huts, have been erected at Great Barton, in connection with the Small Holdings. These houses contain a living-room, a sitting-room, and two bedrooms, with scullery and pantry. They have pail-closets, and are supplied with water from wells about 75 feet deep. They have land varying from 12 to 50 acres attached. The tenants seem quite satisfied with these houses.

SURVEY OF THE DISTRICT BY THE HOUSING COMMITTEE.

The members of the Housing Committee, of which Major Mortimer is Chairman, appointed from their number several Sub-Committees to inspect and report on groups of parishes, as to the state of existing houses, the number of houses which should be condemned, and the number of new houses required, and also to inspect and recommend sites suitable for the new houses. These Sub-Committees were always accompanied by the Medical Officer of Health, and the Sanitary Inspector, and went very carefully into the needs of each parish they visited.

The Committee were of opinion that about 136 houses were unfit for human habitation, that 53 might be converted into 26 dwellings, and that 179 new houses are required.

The following is a short resume of some of the reports furnished by them:—

BARDWELL.—A group of cottages, called Quaker's Row, were reported on adversely, and also three cottages opposite the "Dun Cow." "Three sites were visited, viz., a portion of a field on the corner of Quaker's Lane and Low Street; a grass field on the north side of Quaker's Lane, near the Chapel; and the site of Quaker's Row Cottages." Subsequently it was decided to erect 12 houses.

BARROW.—"The Committee is of the opinion that there is urgent need for new houses in this parish, and recommend that 18 houses should be closed and demolished as soon as better accommodation is available for the present tenants." "They further recommend that the row of six houses known as Meadow Row should be converted into three dwellings." The erection of 20 new houses is recommended, viz., 4 pairs on land facing the Bury Road, and now offered for sale by the owners of the Saxham Estate; 4 pairs on a meadow adjoining the School; and 2 pairs on the site now occupied by the group of six cottages on the Green and owned by Mr. A. Banks.

GREAT BARTON.—The Committee recommend that an unoccupied house should be closed, and the adjoining house occupied by an aged couple should be closed when vacant. Cottages at East Barton, owned by Sir Walter Greene, are capable of improvement, and might be made reasonably fit for human habitation. Three cottages adjoining the G.E. Railway should be closed and demolished as soon as accommodation can be found for the occupants. The Committee recommend the erection of three new houses upon the site of this property, but suggest the houses should be built nearer the roadway.

BRADFIELD ST. CLARE.—The Committee recommend that two cottages opposite the School, and two cottages on Elms Green, should be closed as soon as additional accommodation is provided. They also suggest that two cottages should be converted into a single dwelling, and that more suitable accommodation be provided for two other families. They recommend the erection of eight new houses upon sites, as follows: Piece of ground occupied by Mr. F. Potter on Cockfield Road, 4 houses; land next the School, 2 houses; and meadow adjoining Dairy Farm, 2 houses

BRADFELD ST. GEORGE.—It was suggested that four cottages situated on the East side of Rougham Road might be converted into two dwellings either by the owner, or the property purchased by the Thingoe Council, and the necessary alterations carried out on their behalf. Similar remarks apply to the four cottages on the West side of the same road. There is a suitable site for building purposes on the East side of the road. It was subsequently decided to build six houses.

BROCKLEY.—The Committee recommend that closing orders followed by demolition orders should be made with respect to one house, and that three others in the same group should be closed as soon as new houses are erected. They also recommend that two other houses should be converted into one, and that another should be closed. They suggest that four new houses should be erected upon an enclosed field one acre in area next the School, and they offer as alternative sites a piece of allotment land (if procurable), or the site of Mr. Johnson's property.

CHEDBURGH.—The Committee recommend that four cottages should be condemned. They also recommend the erection of six new houses, one pair to be built upon garden land owned by Mr. Golding, a second pair upon a site in Queen's Lane, and a further pair upon a site to be selected near the School.

CHEVINGTON.—The Committee recommend that seven houses should be condemned as unfit for human habitation, and that two cottages should be converted into a single dwelling. "The Committee suggest that the principal landowner should be asked to consider the erection of new cottages on his estate"; and they recommend the erection of six new houses on the grass land at the junction of the Horringer and Bury Roads near the Rectory.

DENHAM.—The Committee considered that four houses were uninhabitable, and they suggest that four new houses are required to replace those condemned. They further suggest that the owner of the estate should be asked to build the necessary accommodation. The selection of suitable sites was deferred.

DEPDEN.—The Committee recommend that four cottages be closed and demolished as soon as additional accommodation is provided. They further recommend the erection of four new cottages upon a site to be chosen on land abutting on the Wickhambrook Road.

FLEMPTON.—Of a row of four thatched houses on the Green three were condemned, and a group of five cot-

tages adjoining the Greyhound Publichouse were also condemned. The Committee recommended the erection of six new houses, and suggest sites near the School, and the stackyard at the Hall Farm.

FORNHAM ALL SAINTS.—The Committee examined a group of ten cottages known as The Court, and recommended the closing of Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, and the conversion of Nos. 9 and 10 into a single dwelling. Two cottages near the Rectory were considered as unfit for human habitation, and one house as overcrowded. The Committee recommend the erection of eight new houses on grass land on the north side of the Bury Road.

FORNHAM ST. MARTIN.—Three houses in School Lane were considered unfit for human habitation, and it was recommended that they should be closed when they became vacant. The Committee are of opinion that no further accommodation is required.

HARGRAVE.—The Committee recommend that several empty houses should be demolished, and that eight houses should be closed after new houses are erected. The Committee approve of the erection of six houses, and also recommend that the owners of two farms should be approached and asked to erect houses for the workmen on these farms. One farm of 206 acres has only one cottage, and the other farm of 360 acres has two cottages. Sites for building are recommended at Birds End, and on a field at the junction of Bury Road and Hargrave Green.

HAWSTEAD.—The Committee recommend that one house should be closed as soon as other accommodation can be provided, and that four cottages should be converted into two dwellings, and that in two other cases two cottages should be made into one. They also consider that several other properties could be made habitable if partly reconstructed and thoroughly repaired. They recommend the erection of six new houses and suggest a site on the Village Green.

IXWORTH.—The Committee recommend that thirteen houses should be closed and demolished as soon as improved accommodation is available; and that a row of eight houses should be converted into four dwellings. The Committee recommend the erection of sixteen houses on the following sites: Land opposite School in Thetford Road; land in Cemetery Road, owned by Mr. Turner; and a site now occupied by houses owned by Rev. H. Crowe. "The Committee also recommend the installation of a scavenging scheme for the collection of house

refuse from the properties in Thetford Road, High Street, and Stow Lane."

GREAT LIVERMERE AND LITTLE LIVERMERE.

—The Committee considered there was sufficient accommodation and do not recommend the erection of any new houses.

PAKENHAM.—"The Committee were of opinion that the erection of cottages would be justified" (subsequently the erection of twelve houses was decided on). Two sites were viewed with favour, viz., Glebe land adjoining Pakenham Church, and a portion of a field adjoining the Fen, owned by Mr. Hitchcock.

REDE.—The Committee do not suggest the erection of any new houses. Three cottages were unoccupied at the time of the inspection.

RISBY.—"The need for new houses was recognised." The Committee recommend the closing of sixteen houses, seven of which are in Sycamore Row, as soon as improved accommodation can be provided. They further recommend that Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, Church Cottages should be converted into two dwellings. And also that in two other cases two cottages should be made into single dwellings. The erection of ten new houses is recommended on sites to be suggested at a later date, and the Committee are of opinion that the principal landowner should be asked to erect new houses on his estate.

ROUGHAM.—"The Committee were satisfied that additional houses are necessary and suggest that the views of the principal landowner should be solicited, accompanied by a request that he would give the question of providing more cottages on his estate his favourable consideration." Pending his reply the question of sites was deferred.

RUSHBROOKE.—The whole of the cottage properties are owned by one landlord. The Committee recommend that his attention be drawn to the need for improved conditions, but do not suggest any building site in this parish. They deferred this subject until the landlord's intentions are known. This property has since changed hands, and the new owner has already rethatched all the houses and made other improvements.

GREAT SAXHAM.—The Committee recommend the closing and demolition, as soon as better accommodation is available, of fourteen cottages, four of which are unoccupied. They further recommend the erection of ten new houses on the land opposite the Post Office.

LITTLE SAXHAM.—Three cottages were considered unfit for human habitation. The Committee recommend that three new houses should be erected, but that the matter remain in abeyance until the landlord's views and intentions are known. The question of site is also deferred.

STANNINGFIELD.—The Committee recommend the erection of six new houses upon sites to be suggested by the Stanningfield Parish Council.

STANTON.—"The similarity in the mode of construction was noted in the various properties visited." It was recommended that four houses should be closed, and that two should be converted into a single dwelling. The Committee recommend the erection of four new houses on land with frontage to the Bury Road near Mr. Robinson's mill.

TROSTON.—Practically all the cottages belong to the Troston Estate. "Whilst none of the houses are considered to be in such a condition as to warrant condemnation, the Committee were of opinion that considerable improvement might be effected." The Committee learned that this property had quite recently changed hands, and that the new owner proposed repairing the cottages at an early date.

IXWORTH THORPE.—All the cottages belong to the same landlord, they are of fair construction, but showed signs of general neglect. There appeared to be no scarcity of houses. Since this report was made the whole of the property has changed hands, and the present owner is carrying out the necessary repairs.

GREAT WHELNETHAM.—The Committee is of opinion that a row of six houses, including the Police Station, might be converted into three dwellings. "The need for improved housing accommodation is recognised, and the following suggested as alternative sites: Portion of field on the Le Grice estate, in occupation of the West Suffolk County Council, with frontage to the Stanningfield Road; portion of field at rear of Great Whelnetham School; portion of field between Little Whelnetham Rectory and railway, with frontage to Bradfield St. George Road.

LITTLE WHELNETHAM.—The Committee were of opinion that five cottages were unfit for human habitation, and that two cottages occupied by aged people should be closed when vacated. The Committee recommend that the two parishes, Little and Great Whelnetham, should be considered jointly, and suggest that a minimum of sixteen new cottages are required for the two parishes upon sites

recommended in the report on Great Whelnetham. The maximum number of houses likely to be required is 24.

WHEPSTEAD.—The Committee recommend that the majority of the houses visited should be eventually condemned unless the owners are prepared to carry out extensive repairs and alterations. They suggest that six new houses, built in pairs in various parts of the parish, should be erected to meet the immediate housing needs. Sites recommended are as follows: Meadow land near Stag Inn; three-quarters of an acre of grass land on straight road occupied by Mrs. Armstrong; about an acre of grass land at Sparkes' corner.

Since the above reports were made by the various Sub-Committees, I understand that many of the sites have been dealt with by the Housing Committee, and been approved by the Commissioners.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES SCOTT KILNER,

M.B., C.M., Edin.; D.P.H., Cambs.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Bury St. Edmund's,

March 29th, 1920.

*Table shewing Causes of Deaths in the Thingoe District
during the Year 1919—Civilians only.*

					MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes					92	65
1	Enteric Fever	...	...	...
2	Small Pox	...	...	..
3	Measles	...	..	...
4	Scarlet Fever	...	..	...
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	...
6	Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	..
7	Influenza	...	...	..	4	1
8	Erysipelas	...	...	...
9	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	8	4
10	Tuberculous Meningitis	...	..	...	1	
11	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	2	2
12	Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	...	12	9
13	Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...
14	Meningitis	...	...	...
15	Organic Heart Disease	...	...	...	10	11
16	Bronchitis	...	...	...	9	7
17	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	3	1
18	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...
19	Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	2	
20	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	..	...	...
21	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	.. *
21A	Alcoholism	...	...	...
22	Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	...	...	1	4
23	Puerperal Fever...	...	...	...
24	Parturition, apart from Puerperal Fever	...	...	...
25	Congenital Debility, &c.	...	...	...	3	5
26	Violence apart from Suicide	...	...	...	3	1
27	Suicide...	...	..	...	1	
28	Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	32	16
29	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	1	3
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age. Total					9	6
Ditto, Illegitimate					2	3

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

I.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises.					Number of	
					Inspections.	Written Notices.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	...	...	...	...	—	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	...	...	...	...	25	—
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	—	—
Total	...	...	...	...	25	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.	
	Found.	Remedied.
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>		
Want of cleanliness	5	5
Want of ventilation	—	—
Other nuisances	—	—
Sanitary accommodation { Insufficient Unsuitable or defective	—	—
Total	5	5

* Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8, of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

3.—HOME WORK.

Nature of Work.	Lists received from Employers.		Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists.
	Lists.	Workmen.	
Wearing Apparel—			
(1) making, &c.	4	152	—
Total	4	152	—

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of the year—

Workshops on Register (S. 131) at the end of the year						
Workshop Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	22
" Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	7
Blacksmiths' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	3
Tailors' Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total number of Workshops on Register	...	...	...	...	...	36

THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR 1919.

Number of Visits made	...	...	...	...	...	860
„ Visits in connection with Infectious Diseases						30
„ Statutory Notices served	...	...	...			11
„ Preliminary Notices served	...	...	...			65

DWELLING HOUSES.

Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	128
„ „ disinfected	...	...	...	...		13
„ „ cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ „ provided with improved means of light- ing and ventilation	...	...	...	...		1
„ „ where dampness has been cured	...	...	...	...		13
„ „ closed (voluntarily by owners)	...	...	...	...		—
„ „ closed (by closing order)	...	...	...	...		—
„ „ demolished (without demolition orders)	...	...	...	...		—
„ „ in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habi- tation	...	...	...	...		71
„ „ made reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...		—
„ „ erected	...	...	...	...	...	—
„ „ re-built or added to	...	...	...	...	...	—
„ „ in course of erection	...	...	...	...	...	—
„ instances where two houses have been converted into one dwelling	...	...	...	...		—
„ „ where overcrowded conditions have been remedied	...	...	...	...		4

SUMMARY OF REPAIRS TO DWELLING HOUSES.

Number of houses where walls have been repaired...	...	10
„ „ floors repaired ... ..	...	3
„ „ roofs (tiled or slated) repaired ... ..	...	3
„ „ roofs (thatched) repaired ... ..	...	9
„ „ roofs re-thatched ... ..	...	7
„ „ ceilings repaired ... ..	...	6
„ „ windows repaired ... ..	...	9
„ „ staircases repaired or protected ... ..	...	2
„ „ troughing provided ... ..	...	2
„ „ troughing repaired ... ..	...	8
„ „ ashpits covered or repaired ... ..	...	—
„ „ yard surfaces paved ... ..	...	—
„ „ outbuildings repaired ... ..	...	1
„ „ dangerous buildings demolished ... ..	...	—
„ „ chimneys repaired ... ..	...	2
„ „ coppers have been provided or repaired	...	2

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Number of Privies erected for old properties ... ..	...	—
„ „ erected for new properties ... ..	...	—
„ „ erected (additional accommodation) ... ..	...	—
„ pail closets erected for old properties ... ..	...	—
„ pail closets erected for new properties ... ..	...	—
„ pail closets erected (additional accommodation)	...	—
„ privies abolished ... ..	...	4
„ privies repaired ... ..	...	4
„ privies converted to pail closets ... ..	...	—
„ „ „ hand-flushed w.c.'s ... ..	...	—
„ pail closets repaired ... ..	...	—
„ waste pipes disconnected ... ..	...	—
„ new drains constructed ... ..	...	3
„ drains repaired or trapped ... ..	...	3
„ open ditches cleansed ... ..	...	9
„ dead wells constructed ... ..	...	—

WATER SUPPLY.

Number of samples taken for analysis	...	...	...	1
„ „ found to be unfit for drinking purposes	...	...	...	1
„ new wells sunk	...	...	...	—
„ wells closed	...	...	...	—
„ wells repaired	...	...	...	3
„ wells deepened	...	...	...	—
„ wells cleansed	...	...	...	1
„ pumps repaired	...	...	...	—
„ houses supplied from purer sources	...	...	...	—

SCHOOLS.

Number of visits made to school premises	...	...	...	12
„ drains or sanitary fittings re-constructed	...	...	...	—

MISCELLANEOUS.

Number of visits made to dairies, cowsheds and milkshops	...	...	...	26
„ registered cowkeepers in the District	...	...	...	26
„ registered dairymen and purveyors of milk in the District	...	...	...	3
„ cowsheds repaired	...	...	...	3
„ cowsheds where lime-washing was requested	...	...	...	6
„ visits to workshops	...	...	...	25
„ out-workers' homes visited	...	...	...	152
„ bakehouses where repairs or cleansing was requested	...	...	...	5
„ slaughterhouses where cleansing was requested	...	...	...	2
„ nuisances caused by the improper keeping of animals abated	...	...	...	13
„ offensive accumulations requested to be removed	...	...	...	16
„ nuisances abated	...	...	...	130

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE UNDER THE HOUSING
AND TOWN PLANNING, ETC., ACT, 1909, AND
HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT)
REGULATIONS, 1910.

Number of houses inspected (re-visited)	...	...	...	46
„ „ considered to be so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	71
„ representations made to the Local Authority with a view to the making of closing orders	...	...	...	2
„ closing orders made	...	...	...	—
„ houses the defects in which were remedied with- out the making of closing orders	...	...	...	—
„ houses which, after the making of closing orders, were put into a fit state for human habitation	—

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